



TENNESSEE  
AGRICULTURAL  
STATISTICS  
SERVICE

P.O. Box 41505  
Nashville, TN 37204-1505  
1-800-626-0987

<http://www.nass.usda.gov/tn>

cooperating with  
Tennessee Department  
of Agriculture



# Agri-News

**Debra K. Kenerson**  
**State Statistician**

[nass-tn@nass.usda.gov](mailto:nass-tn@nass.usda.gov)

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **HARVEST WINDING DOWN ON AN EXCELLENT SEASON**

Harvest of this year's fall crops is near completion with producers across Tennessee anticipating excellent yields, according to the November 1 Agricultural Yield Survey. Producers continue to forecast record yields for the State's corn and dark-type tobacco crops, while the latest projection for cotton points to the highest yield in seven years. Burley yields are also forecast at their highest level in seven years and soybeans the highest in five. Other than one heavy rain at mid-month, farmers had near ideal weather conditions during October for harvest. Virtually all of the State's corn was harvested by the end of October with cotton and soybean harvest lagging only slightly behind normal. Winter wheat seeding and emergence of the 2002 crop has progressed behind last year's pace due to the recent lack of moisture. Results of the November 1 survey showed the following:

**Cotton**, 690 pounds per acre, up 24 pounds from last month; **Corn**, 133 bushels per acre, up 1 bushel from last month and a new state record; **Soybeans**, 35 bushels per acre, unchanged from last month; and **Burley Tobacco**, 2,000 pounds per acre, the same as last month. Dark tobacco types were also all unchanged from the October 1 forecast as follows: **Type 22**, 2,800 pounds per acre; **Type 23**, 3,200 pounds per acre; and **Type 35**, 2,500 pounds per acre.

## **COTTON YIELD HIGHEST SINCE 1994**

With over half of the cotton acreage harvested during the month of October, the crop appears to be larger than anticipated earlier. Yields are expected to average 690 pounds per acre, up 24 pounds from the previous month's forecast and 87 pounds above 2000. If realized, this will be the highest yield since 1994. Production is forecast at 870,000 bales, up 4 percent from last month and 23 percent above a year ago. Harvest of the estimated 605,000 acres of cotton was 86 percent complete by the week ending November 4, slightly behind last year, but on pace with normal. A better than average second picking is being reported in many areas.

## **STATE RECORD CORN YIELD**

Corn yield is forecast at 133 bushels per acre, one bushel better than last month and 19 bushels above last year. If realized, this will be the highest yield on record for the Volunteer State, surpassing the previous record set in 1992 by 9 bushels. The State's harvested for grain area is estimated at 570,000 acres with total production forecast at 75.8 million bushels, the highest since 1996. Mostly cool, dry weather conditions during October allowed harvest activities to progress in line with normal. The majority of the crop had been harvested by the third week of October.

## **SOYBEAN PRODUCTION HIGHEST IN FOUR YEARS**

Soybean production is forecast a 36.8 million bushels, unchanged from October 1, but 28 percent above 2000. The yield forecast, at 35 bushels per acre, is unchanged from last month, but up 10 bushels from the drought stricken 2000 crop. If realized, this will be the highest yield in five years and 1.5 bushels short of the state record set in 1994. As of November 4, harvest was progressing on schedule with 66 percent of the acreage combined. There have been reports of insect damage to some of the late planted soybeans; however, producers are still expecting better than average yields in most areas.

(OVER)

SMALLEST BURLEY CROP SINCE 1989

Burley tobacco production for 2001 is forecast at 68.0 million pounds, unchanged from October 1, but down 4 percent from a year ago. If realized, this will be the smallest crop since 1989. Burley yields held steady with the October forecast at 2,000 pounds per acre, 4 percent above last year. Burley stripping was at a near standstill the first week of November, as producers need moisture to get their crop in case. With 41 percent of the burley stripped as of November 4, progress was 10 days behind a year ago and almost a week behind normal. Production of dark-fired Types 22 and 23 was down 20 percent from 2000 at 17.1 and 1.6 million pounds, respectively. Dark-Air Cured production (Type 35), at 1.55 million pounds, is 7 percent below a year ago. Forecasted yields for dark types also remain unchanged from last month: Type 22 - Eastern Dark-Fired, 2,800; Type 23 - Western Dark-Fired, 3,200; Type 35 - Dark-Air Cured, 2,500 pound per acre.

CROP FORECASTS: TENNESSEE AND UNITED STATES, NOVEMBER 1, 2001, WITH COMPARISONS							
Crop	Unit	Harvested Acres		Yield Per Acre		Production	
		2000	Indicated 2001	2000	Indicated 2001	2000	Indicated 2001
		Thousands		Number of Units		Thousands	
TENNESSEE							
Apples	lb.	---	---	---	---	9,500	9,500
Corn for grain	bu.	590	570	114	133	67,260	75,810
Cotton <sup>1</sup>	lb.	565	605	603	690	710	870
Hay, All (excluding Alfalfa)	ton	2,000	2,050	2.30	2.50	4,600	5,125
Peaches	lb.	---	---	---	---	2,500	4,000
Soybeans	bu.	1,150	1,050	25.0	35.0	28,750	36,750
Tobacco, All	lb.	46.02	41.22	2,085	2,140	95,958	88,230
E. Dark-fired (22)	lb.	7.7	6.1	2,760	2,800	21,252	17,080
W. Dark-fired (23)	lb.	.64	.50	3,125	3,200	2,000	1,600
Burley (31)	lb.	37.0	34.0	1,920	2,000	71,040	68,000
One-sucker (35)	lb.	.68	.62	2,450	2,500	1,666	1,550
Winter Wheat	bu.	380	340	55.0	54.0	20,900	18,360
UNITED STATES							
Apples	lb.	—	---	---	---	10,648,700	9,560,400
Corn for grain	bu.	72,732	69,191	137.1	138.0	9,968,358	9,545,513
Cotton <sup>1</sup>	lb.	13,053.0	14,139.5	632	685	17,188.3	20,175.0
Hay, All (excluding Alfalfa)	ton	36,777	40,083	1.95	2.01	71,836	80,675
Peaches	lb.	---	---	---	---	2,599,800	2,537,300
Soybeans	bu.	72,408	74,137	38.1	39.4	2,757,810	2,922,914
Tobacco, All	lb.	472.43	451.24	2,229	2,355	1,052,998	1,062,751
E. Dark-fired (22)	lb.	11.80	9.40	2,896	2,800	34,167	26,320
W. Dark-fired (23)	lb.	4.44	3.60	3,360	3,286	14,920	11,830
Burley (31)	lb.	185.40	174.90	1,957	2,133	362,788	373,056
One-sucker (35)	lb.	3.78	3.42	2,901	2,664	10,966	9,110
Winter Wheat	bu.	35,072	31,295	44.7	43.5	1,566,023	1,361,479

<sup>1</sup> Production in 480-lb. net weight bales. U.S. production includes American-Pima Cotton.

**REMINDER:** All forecasts in this report are based on conditions about November 1 and do not reflect any possible weather affects since that time.

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